BLACK LABEL

Fatana™

Bring Down the House

Mariko Tamaki

Javier Rodriguez

"The best comic book released this year."
—Comic Book Revolution

"Some creatures fight for magic their whole lives.

You were born with the words in your throat, a language ready to be spoken."

Tatanna

Bring Down the House

LIGHT

SMOKE

MUSIC

Zatanna

Bring Down the House

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ZATANNA: BRING DOWN THE HOUSE

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A
K
Q
J
10

"You want to see magic? I'll *show* you magic."

AS YOU CAN SEE...

...WE HAVE THREE **ORDINARY** CUPS.

THREE ORDINARY **BALLS.**

ONE, TWO, THREE--

OKAY, WE *GOT IT*, ZATANNA. MOVE ON.

TAP TAP TAP

WH-WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW IS... WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE *COVER* THE BALLS? ARE THEY STILL THERE?

WHAT?!

WHERE DID THAT BALL GO?

HEY, **THAT** ONE'S GONE, TOO!

AND THAT'S BECAUSE THEY'VE ALL MOVED TO UNDER...

...HERE!

TADAAAaaauuuhhhh

Huh.
Wait a minute.
I KNEW IT.
IS THIS PART OF THE ACT?
SODA
CERVEZA CLARITA
The ball's supposed to be here...
I TOLD YOU SHE WOULD MESS IT UP.
BOP
BOP
WHOOPS!
NICE TRY, ZABANANA!
HAHAHA!
I THOUGHT YOU SAID HER DAD WAS A MAGICIAN?
Pffft...

"...GUESS IT DOESN'T RUN IN THE FAMILY."

Father?

COME IN.

KNOCK KNOCK

WHAT DO YOU WANT, CHILD?

SPEAK UP.

I NEED HELP.

HELP?

MY TRICK.

IT DOESN'T WORK. I NEED TO MAKE THE BALL DISAPPEAR.

I SEE.

I THOUGHT--

--I thought...

...if I knew *magic*...

MAGIC.

You said you would teach me?

"DID I?"

AS YOU CAN SEE, THREE ORDINARY CUPS.

JUST GET TO THE PART WHERE YOU SCREW UP ALREADY!

HAHAHA!

AND WE SAY THE MAGIC WORDS--

LABANANA!

CUT IT OUT!

CUT IT OUT.

I'M SERIOUS.

I'M SERIOUS.

I CAN DO MAGIC NOW! OKAY, SO SHUT UP!

SURE THING, ZABANANA.

STOP CALLING ME THAT.

Oh yeah? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT, ZABANANA?

YOU WANT TO SEE MAGIC?

I'LL SHOW YOU MAGIC.

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

EEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BE...

06:10

THROK

06:10

I feel *awesome.*

Super, *super* awesome.

FZZ FZZ FZZ FZZ

HEY, VEGAS. HOW'S *YOUR* MORNING GOING?

DC COMICS
presents...

a story by
MARIKO TAMAKI
and **JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ**

with lettering by **HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU**
and edited by **ANDREA SHEA**

ZATANNA
BRING DOWN THE HOUSE

GOOD MORNING, MY LITTLE BOUNCING BABY BUNNIES!

WHO FEELS LIKE BEING A *STAR* TODAY?

MY LITTLE SCENE STEALERS--

--*hey.*

WERE YOU GUYS UP ALL NIGHT WATCHING TV?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

OKAY, LIZZIE, COME ON. YO RE UP.

SQUEE!

What--

WHAT IS UP WITH-- LIZZIE!

SQUEEE

AUUURGH!

WHAT THE HELL?

GOLDEN DICE LAS VEGAS

IS IT YOUR FOOD? WHAT IS GOING ON?

NO MORE LATE-NIGHT SNACKS FOR YOU BUNNIES!

AND NO MORE TV.

CLICK

ARTS

WELCOME TO PART FOUR OF...

...YOU ARE IMPORTANT AND YOU SHOULD BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.

LET US BEGIN.

YOU ARE CALM. YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL.

YOU ARE AMAZING JUST AS YOU ARE.

YOU ARE READY FOR ANYTHING THAT COMES YOUR WAY.

Huh?

YOU FEEL YOUR POWER.

What...?

YOU ARE IN CONTROL OF YOUR WORLD.

NOT A LOT OF PLACES TO HIDE IN THE *DESERT*, ZATANNA.

EVERY DAY IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO GAIN EVEN MORE MASTERY OVER YOUR ENVIRONMENT.

Chill out.

THE GOLDEN DICE

HOTEL

CASINO

ZATANNA

ZATANNA

MISS ZATANNA?

YES?

Ah, MISS PERKINS! HOW CAN I HELP YOU HELP *ME* BY GOING AWAY?

I TOLD YOU, I'M *NOT* GIVING UP. THE MILLENNIUM HOTEL GROUP--

--SHOULD GIVE UP!

SOUVENIRS GIFTS T-SHIRTS

FOR
VE TH
ARKIN
ONLY

I'M NOT THE ACT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

I'VE DONE MY RESEARCH.

PEOPLE IN VEGAS DO *RESEARCH?*

That's new.

I'VE HEARD THE *JUSTICE LEAGUERS* CAME KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR.

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR.

THEY *DIDN'T* COME CALLING?

I TOLD *THEM* WHAT I'M TELLING *YOU.* I'M A TOP HAT WITH A FEW CARD TRICKS.

THAT'S IT.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A HERO, YOU COULD AT LEAST BE *RICH!* THE MILLENNIUM IS PREPARED TO OFFER YOU A *VERY* LUCRATIVE PACKAGE!

I'M GOOD WITH MY *EXISTING* PACKAGE.

Gotta love this city.

GOODBYE, MISS PERKINS!

WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN DICE! *YOU'RE ON A ROLL!*

Oh, HEY, Z!
HEY, BEA.
HOW'S TRICKS?
SOLIDLY GOOD.
DING! DING!
DING!
DING!
DING!
DING!
DING!
DING!
DING!
Geez...
...I'M AS BAD AS THE BUNNIES.
FRAG
STAFF ONLY
"YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING *STALKED* OR SOMETHING?
"BECAUSE THIS *IS* VEGAS..."

...WE'RE *ALL* SORT OF BEING STALKED. ALL THE TIME.

I'M AWARE.

WEIRD DREAMS STILL?

WE SHOULD GO TO MY NEW AURA GUY!

IS YOUR *AURA GUY* MORE RELIABLE THAN YOUR *TAROT WOMAN?*

MY TAROT WOMAN PREDICTED YOUR ENGINE BLOWING OUT!

I MEAN, I'M SURE MY MECHANIC WOULD HAVE TOO, IF I *HAD* ONE.

YOU HAVE SPOOKY BAD LUCK WITH MACHINERY, BTW.

BECAUSE I'M CHEAP AND I BUY CHEAP THINGS.

YOU DON'T THINK IT'S SOMETHING MORE *METAPHYSICAL?*

MY STALKER? I THOUGHT YOU SAID IT WAS VEGAS.

I HAVE A MATINEE IN FIFTEEN.

GIVE 'EM WHAT THEY PAID FOR.

MY SHOW IS FREE WITH A WATER PARK PASS.

Oh, HEY! SPEAKING OF *STALKERS...*

"...MAYBE YOUR NEW REGULAR WILL BE THERE!"

FREE SHOW

WELCOME, GUESTS OF THE GOLDEN DICE! PLEASE TAKE YOUR SEATS!

ZATANNA

FREE SHOW

THE SHOW WILL BEGIN IN *FIVE* MINUTES.

HELLO, NEW REGULAR.

EXIT

Nice trench coat, weirdo.

YOU READY TO GO?

DO YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD THAT SOMEONE'S COME TO MY SHOW *SEVEN* TIMES?

IT *IS* FREE.

YEAH, BUT *SEVEN TIMES?!*

IT'S LIKE SHE'S AUDITIONING FOR THE ROLE OF VEGAS AUDIENCE.

IT'S *ODD!*

YOU'RE UP IN FIVE.

AND NOW, OH MIGHTY YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR--

--PLEASE PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR...

The GREAT

HANNA

LIGHT

SMOKE

MUSIC

WELCOME TO VEGAS!

TIME TO BE ENTERTAINED! SOUND LIKE FUN?

OKAY!
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES!
CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP
IS IT AN ILLUSION?
ARE YOUR EYES DECEIVED?
OR IS THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE?
IS YOUR CARD...
...THE THREE OF HEARTS?
YES! YES, IT IS.
THERE YOU HAVE IT!

SUCH A LOVELY SHOW. JUST LOVELY.

ZAP

MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION?

SHOOT.

FREE SHOW

ANNA

Anna

WHY DO YOU NOT CALL YOURSELF A *MAGICIAN?*

MY NIECE HERE, FREDDY, WAS JUST SAYING HOW *STRANGE* IT IS.

"YOUR WHOLE SHOW..."

"...YOU NEVER SAY THE WORD *MAGIC.*

"NOT *ONCE.*

"DO YOU NOT LIKE MAGIC?"

I DO *TRICKS.* THAT'S ME.

THANKS FOR COMING.

EVENING- SHOW CURTAIN IN TEN!

Zatanna

I do tricks, not magic.

GUESTS OF THE GOLDEN DICE!

WHO'S READY FOR A BIG--

--show.

Okay, whoever you are.

I'm *done* with this.

HEY!

HOW ABOUT WE START THINGS OFF WITH SOME **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION?**

LET'S SEE... LET'S TALK TO SOMEONE *NEW*, SOMEONE--

--SOMEONE I'VE **NEVER SEEN BEFORE!**

WELL, HELLO...

...STRANGER. WHAT'S *YOUR* NAME?

THAT'S IT.

Okay.

DO YOU LIKE *CARD TRICKS?*

NO.

*REA*LLY. YOU MUST BE A GLUTTON FOR PUNISHMENT, THEN!

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THIS IS YOUR *EIGHTH TIME* IN MY THEATER. TELL ME YOU JUST *REALLY* LOVE WATER PARKS.

ACTUALLY, IT'S MY TWELFTH TIME.

WHAT IS SHE *DOING?* SHE'S... FIGHTING WITH SOMEONE IN THE AUDIENCE?

Look, okay? I don't know what your deal is, but this is *freaking me out.*

ME COMING TO *YOUR* SHOW IS FREAKING *YOU* OUT?

You coming to my show looking like some extra in a cop show is *unsettling,* yeah.

IS IT THE *SUNGLASSES?*

Yes. It's the sunglasses.

Look, you're not a fan, you don't like tricks, maybe you should go.

I *DON'T* LIKE TRICKS.

I LIKE *MAGIC.*

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

...LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU.

KTR KTR K

KTR KTP

KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR

What.

Is.

THAT?!

KTR KTR KTR

Uh... CURTAIN?

GRORLL

YOU JUST GOING TO *STAND* THERE?

I--

--WHAT?!

I KNOW WHO YOU *ARE*, ZATANNA!

WHATEVER YOU'RE UP TO WITH--

WHATEVER YOU'RE *DOING* WITH--

WHAT?

HIM!

"THIS IS HAPPENING BECAUSE OF HIM."

I don't know what you're--

ZATARA! YOUR FATHER!

My father is *dead.*

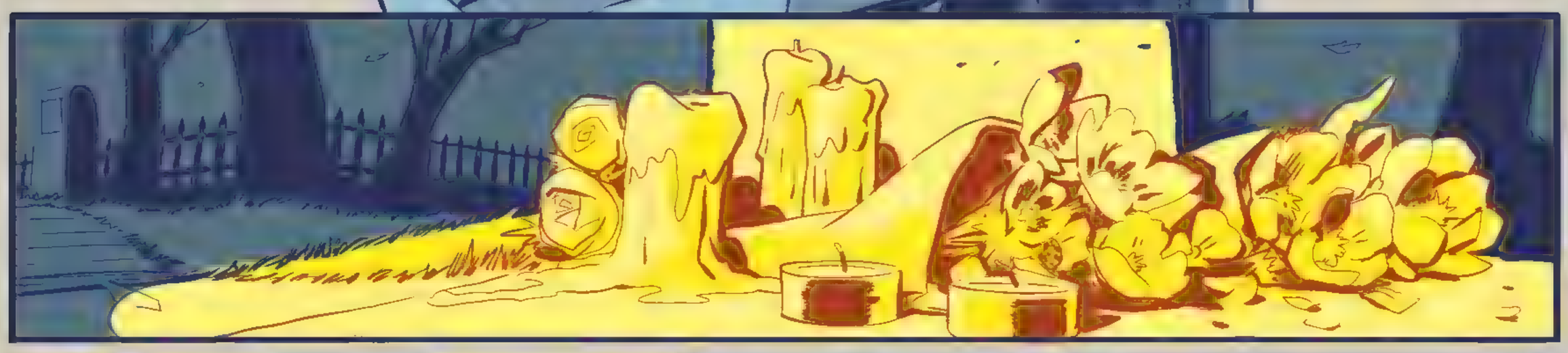
I *KNOW,* ZATANNA...

"...YOU KILLED HIM."

NEXT: MAGIC, not TRICKS.

“We are fixing your mess.”

A long time ago...



COME WITH ME.

Where are we going?

FATHER?

WAIT!

I DON'T UNDER-STAND.

Please...

...WHY ARE WE HERE?

ENOUGH!

WE ARE FIXING *YOUR* MESS.

YOU CAN BRING HIM BACK?

WITH *MAGIC?*

YOU WILL DO *EXACTLY* AS I SAY.

ARE YOU READY?

YES, FATHER.

SSSSSSSLLLLL

Today...

SSLLURP

SSLLURP

BETTY.

YES, JANICE?

CROSS

WHAT DAY IS IT TODAY?

SSLLURP

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE

SSSLURP

WEDNESDAY.

Huh...

"...DOESN'T *FEEL* LIKE A WEDNESDAY."

ZATANNA!

HELLO?

M-miss?

DON'T YOU... DON'T YOU WORK HERE?
CAN'T YOU DO SOME-THING?!
WHAT--
WE NEED HELP! WE NEED TO CALL SOMEONE NOW!
DO YOU HAVE SUPERMAN'S NUMBER?
THIS IS MY VACATION, GODDAMMIT!
CRASH!
I'M SORRY!
HEY, STRANGER! WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S A @#$%ING DEMON!
WHAT IS--?
WHERE DID--?
YOU WANT A LESSON IN DEMONOLOGY NOW?!
LOOK, I NEED YOU TO HELP ME FIGHT, OKAY?
I--
How?
THE ONLY WAY TO DEFEAT A DEMON IS WITH MAGIC.
BUT--
I DON'T--
--I don't do magic.
Forget it. GET SOME-WHERE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DIE.

I HAVE TO *KILL* THIS THING.

BY *MYSELF.*

TAOC FO CIGAM, EVIG EM HTGNERTS!

LOVE THIS FOR ME.

SLAM!

Somewhere safe. Somewhere safe.

Somewhere safe. Somewhere safe.

Somewhere safe. Somewhere safe.

FWOSH

Don't die. **Don't** die.

BROOM

%$@#!

KRRKRKKKRKKKK

WATCH OUT!

RUMBLE

OOOF!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR DAMN MIND?!

PROBABLY.

CRASH

=Huff=

=Huff=

=Huff=

GRAH!

#%&@!

I'M GOING...

...TO CUT YOU...

...IN TWO!

HEY!

HEY!

I SAID...

HEY!

Zatannnaaaaa...

"YOU *PROMISE* WE CAN BRING HIM BACK? FATHER?"

"DO *EXACTLY* AS I SAY, ZATANNA.

CRUNCH

"REPEAT AFTER ME...

"...THESE *MAGIC* WORDS..."

UNFF!

What just happened?

Crap.

CRAP!

What the *hell...?*

HEEEELP!

TLOB FO NOITCURTSED!

THANK YOU.

I didn't--

THAT WAS... REALLY MESSED UP.

Obviously.

I GUESS, *uh*, THANKS FOR SAVING ME.

AND NOW I HAVE TO GET A NEW JOB--

WHAT WAS *THAT?*

YOU SAID IT WAS A *DEMON.*

NO. *YOU SAID* YOU DIDN'T KNOW *MAGIC.*

I *DON'T.*

YOU'RE FULL OF #@%$.

I'M *WHAT?*

YOU'RE A *LIAR.*

LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS. IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE GOT *MANY.*

BUT I *DON'T DO MAGIC.* OKAY?

IT'S VERY MUCH MY *THING.*

YOU JUST--

WHAT YOU JUST DID-- *TO ME--*

FORGET IT.

WE HAVE TO GO.

COOL. I'M GOING HOME.

THANKS FOR BEING A JERK but also saving my life.

WAIT...

YOU JUST WATCHED A DEMON *LEVEL* YOUR PLACE OF WORK.

YOU CAN'T GO HOME.

WATCH ME.

FORGET IT. YOU'RE COMING WITH ME.

...I DON'T LIKE YOU.

SAME.

I HATE THIS.

SAME.

NEPO A ROOD OT EHT ECALAP FO EHT SRETSAC.

OKAY, SO THIS IS... WHAT.

I'M *DEAD?* IS THIS *HELL?*

YOU THINK HELL IS *REAL?*

WHERE *ARE* WE?

ONLY TEN MILES AWAY FROM THE CASINO. *Chill.*

THIS IS THE PALACE of the CASTERS.

THIS IS TEN MILES FROM THE CASINO?

Like, WHAT, STRAIGHT DOWN?

AND THIS PINCHED-LOOKING PERSON IN THE CLOAK IS...?

THE *CELESTIAL.* LEADER OF THE CASTERS.

SHOW SOME RESPECT.

Oh. IS THIS A CULT?

HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME TO YOUR *CULT?*

Not cool.

GREETINGS TO THE CELESTIAL.

YOU SHOULD KNOW I SHUN ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

WHAT HAVE YOU TO REPORT, STRANGER?

A *DEMON* APPEARED DURING HER...

...SHOW.

HELLO? CAN YOU ADDRESS *ME,* THE PERSON IN FRONT OF YOU?

WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?

WHAT IS MORE INSIPID THAN A WOMAN ASKING A QUESTION SHE ALREADY KNOWS THE *ANSWER* TO?

YOU, ZATANNA-- DAUGHTER OF THE GREAT ZATARA-- *MOCK* THIS SACRED HOME OF MAGIC?

YOUR *FATHER* WAS THE BEST OF US. OUR REVERED TEACHER. OUR WISEST SCHOLAR.

AN ESTEEMED MEMBER OF OUR FOLD.

MY FATHER WAS *VERY IMPORTANT,* IS WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

I *KNOW* WHO MY FATHER WAS, OKAY?

"HE MADE SURE I *KNEW* HOW IMPORTANT HE WAS.

"TRUST ME."

NOW, MY CHILD...

...YOU WILL REPEAT THESE WORDS.

"SINCE YOU ARE *SO* WISE..."

...DO YOU KNOW WHO *YOU* ARE TO *US?*

YOU ARE THE *SLAYER OF ZATARA.*

YOU ARE *ZATANNA,* DESTROYER OF *WISDOM.*

ACTUALLY, IT WAS MORE LIKE *ZATANNA,* JUST A *KID.*

I KNOW WHAT I DID...

"...BUT IT WAS AN *ACCIDENT.*"

...

Father?

KID'S FREAKED. NO FAMILY?

CALL CHILD SERVICES.

DOES SHE REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED?

"I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM."

WHAT *HAPPENED* WAS A PREVENTABLE TRAGEDY.

AREN'T THEY ALL?

YOUR FATHER SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT YOU TO US FROM THE BEGINNING. MAGIC IS A MATTER OF *DISCIPLINE* AND *TRAINING.*

ZATARA UNDERESTIMATED THE *DAMAGE* YOU COULD DO.

YOU PRACTICED MAGIC WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF THE CASTERS' KNOWLEDGE, AND AN INNOCENT BOY WAS CAUGHT IN THE CROSS-FIRE.

AND WHEN YOUR FATHER TRIED TO FIX YOUR MISTAKE--

IS THERE ANYTHING MORE ANNOYING THAN SOMEONE NARRATING YOUR LIFE BACK TO YOU?

I WAS *THERE.*

"YOU WEREN'T.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"I WAS THERE FOR A CHILDHOOD WITH NO FAMILY.

"I WAS THERE BOUNCING BETWEEN FOSTER HOMES.

"YOU ALL MISSED THAT WHOLE THING. LUCKY YOU."

REGARDLESS OF YOUR UNFORTUNATE CHILDHOOD, *YOU* ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR *ACTIONS.*

A DEMON IS THE RESULT OF MAGIC UNCHECKED, MAGIC IN CHAOS.

ALREADY OUR ORDER HAS LOST THREE CASTERS TO THE DEMONS.

TODAY'S DEMON IS *PROOF* THAT YOUR MAGIC-- YOUR *CHAOS*-- IS FEEDING THEM.

THAT *YOU'RE* RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS VIOLENCE.

LOOK, LADY--

--I GET THAT YOU'RE THE HEAD MAGICIAN IN CHARGE.

BUT YOU HAVE NO *IDEA* WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE TO SAY THIS, BUT *I DON'T DO MAGIC.*

EVEN IF I WANTED TO, I COULDN'T.

THE NIGHT MY DAD DIED, WHATEVER MAGICAL CONNECTION I HAD DIED *WITH* HIM.

I'VE *TRIED,* OKAY? I CAN'T DO IT. IT'S JUST NOT IN ME.

CARD TRICKS AND BUNNY RABBITS, THAT'S IT. *THAT'S* ME.

MAYBE IT'S NOT *YOUR* THING, BUT IT'S WHAT I'VE GOT.

SO, *yeah,* I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING. I CAN'T HELP YOU.

EXCEPT, *oh, WAIT--*

--TA-DA!

AS I REPORTED EARLIER--

--SHE'S A *TOP HAT.* SHE CAN'T HELP US.

I'LL TAKE HER BACK TO HER UGLY CONDO AND *THE CASTERS* WILL TAKE CARE OF THE DEMONS AS WE *ALWAYS HAVE.*

AS YOU SAID, THERE'S *NOTHING ELSE* YOU CAN DO. SO YOU CAN DROP IT.

AND YES, IT'S A HORRIBLE CONDO.

...Ugly condo?

EKAT SU KCAB OT EHT POT S'TAH ODNOC.

DON'T BE A STRANGER, I GUESS.

TOO LATE.

CLEARLY.

BLINK

SNIFF

SNIFF

HELLO...?

IS SOMEONE *COOKING* IN MY HOME?

What the #€%@?

CHUP CHUP

CARROT SOUP?

IN HERE, ZATANNA.

BRING DOWN THE HOUSE

THE GOLDEN DICE LAS VEGAS

WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY HOUSE?

SIT *DOWN*, ZATANNA.

twitch

CLICK

WE NEED TO TALK.

THE CASTERS ARE *LYING.*

twitch

06:18

AND SO ARE *YOU.*

NEXT: DOWN the RABBIT HOLE!

"The time for hiding is over."

ZATANNA KNOWS *NOTHING!*

SHE'S AN *ACT!* SHE DOESN'T PRACTICE *MAGIC.*

HER SHOW IS *GREAT* THOUGH. HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

IT'S FREE.

WITH A TICKET TO THE WATER PARK.

SILENCE!

And with a *coupon,* that's like twelve bucks.

YOU HAVE FAILED THIS ORDER, STRANGER.

YOU LOST HER. *I* FOUND HER. AND I BROUGHT HER TO YOU.

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DELIVER *IRREFUTABLE PROOF* OF ZATANNA'S *RECKLESS* USE OF *MAGIC!*

UNTIL THE DEMON CRASHED THROUGH THE CASINO FLOOR, THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE TO DISCOVER.

THIS IS *RIDICULOUS!*

WHY DO WE *NEED* PROOF? SHE DESTROYED HER FATHER. WE KNOW WHAT SHE IS. WE SHOULD TAKE HER OUT BEFORE IT'S *TOO LATE.*

WE *TRIED,* AS YOU RECALL. ANOTHER TOTAL FAILURE.

SHE KNOWS *NOTHING!*

SHE *IS* NOTHING.

FOR THIS ORDER THERE IS ONLY ONE QUESTION AT HAND...

WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY APARTMENT?

WHO I AM IS NOT IMPORTANT.

ARE YOU ONE OF MY RABBITS?

I'M NOT A RABBIT, *so,* NO.

Look. IT'S BEEN A *REALLY* LONG DAY.

YOU'RE LIKE THE THIRD... *PERSON* TO SHOW UP IN MY LIFE IN A VERY WEIRD WAY AND I...

YES?

Oh my, YES, I AGREE...

Sure, JUST *HANG OUT,* ENJOY YOUR *SOUP.* DON'T LET ME *INTERRUPT* YOU.

...WE *DON'T* HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT YOU *DON'T DO MAGIC?*

OH MY GOD.

I DID WHEN I WAS A KID, JUST **TWICE.** OKAY?

AND NOW I CAN'T.

EVEN IF I *DID* KNOW HOW TO DO MAGIC, I *WOULDN'T* BECAUSE IT RUINS LIVES AND APPARENTLY TURNS PEOPLE INTO *ASSHOLES!*

SO, NO. I DON'T. *DO. MAGIC.*

IS THAT *CLEAR ENOUGH* FOR YOU?

CRYSTAL.

BOP

WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
A RABBIT HOLE?
Actually, IT'S A BUNNY WELL.
Feels like a bit of a semantic distinction.
Well, AS YOU KNOW, A LOT OF MAGIC IS SEMANTICS.
WE'LL SEE.

I HATE THIS DAY.

So, *so* much.

AND IT'S ABOUT TO GET MUCH *WORSE!*

Of course it is.

IN THE NAME OF THE ORDER OF BUNNIES...

...YOU, ZATANNA, DAUGHTER OF ZATARA, ARE CHARGED WITH A MISUSE OF MAGIC.

OH COME ON!

THE *PENALTY* FOR WHICH IS--

--DEATH!

WHAT?!

SNIF SNIF

WHAT IS--

ZATANNA...

...MEET THE CREATURE WE CALL...

Damn.

THE DESTROYER OF SOULS!

FORTUNATELY, IF THERE'S ONE THING I *DO* KNOW, IT'S HOW TO HANDLE AN ANGRY BUNNY.

WHUMP

UHNNNN--!

Possibly I'm over-selling my skills in this arena.

CHOMP

hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate this day hate

BUMP UNNNN

STOP!

STOP!

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO

NO

TIBBAR...

...TIBBAR PÖTS LUOS GNIHSURC!

HEY, WHAT'S HOPPING?

Was that *you?*

twitch

SO MUCH FOR *"I DON'T DO MAGIC."*

WHAT THE *HELL* WAS THAT?!

MAGIC.

ARE YOU *SO* SURPRISED?

SOME CREATURES FIGHT FOR MAGIC THEIR WHOLE LIVES.

YOU WERE BORN WITH THE WORDS IN YOUR THROAT, A LANGUAGE READY TO BE SPOKEN.

Ylf hguorht eht ria...

Ylf hguorht eht ria...

...ekil elttil sdrib...

"YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING ME?"

YOU LIVE IN A CITY WHERE YOU'RE UNDER SURVEILLANCE *24 HOURS A DAY.*

YOU CARRY A LITTLE COMPUTER AROUND IN YOUR HAND THAT--

WHAT THE HELL!

YOU'VE BEEN HIDING FROM YOUR POWERS, ZATANNA.

BUT THE TIME FOR *HIDING* IS OVER.

YOUR MAGIC--

SHUT UP!

ZATANNA. THIS CONVERSATION ISN'T OVER.

YOU WANNA BET?

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH A *TRICK UP HER SLEEVE.*

Dammit.

FIND HER BEFORE *THEY* DO.

SILVERA

POP

RAEH EM WON.

SPEAK.

THE STRANGER IS *LYING.*

I WITNESSED ZATANNA'S MAGIC WITH MY *OWN EYE.*

WHAT *KIND* OF MAGIC?

I CANNOT SAY, BUT SHE IS CLEARLY IN CONTACT WITH THE *RABBITS.*

RETURN. *NOW.*

"HEY..."

...LISTEN. I KNOW IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

I NEED TO TALK TO YO-- *SOMEONE.*

I THINK I MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE OR--

--some-thing.

HAPPY HOUR

I-20

SPEED LIMIT 25

OKAY. CALL ME.

Bye.

Open

SIT WHEREVER.

THANKS.

JUST A COKE, THANKS.

NO PROBLEM.

MENU
PACOS
DINER

Come on, Zatanna. Get it together.

I mean, whenever you're ready, get it together.

IT APPEARS...

...WE MAY HAVE GOTTEN OFF ON THE WRONG FOOT.

NOT A *LUCKY* FOOT?

Low blow.

CAN I SIT?

SORRY ABOUT THE RABBIT JOKE.

MOSTLY IT'S UPSETTING BECAUSE IT'S NOT FUNNY.

I was under the impression you were *funny.*

I'M NOT FUNNY WHEN I WANT ANSWERS.

MENU

WHAT DO THE CASTERS WANT FROM ME?

HOW DID YOU KNOW I COULD STILL DO MAGIC?

WHY HAVE YOU BEEN SPYING ON ME?

YOU WANT THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH IS THERE ARE *MANY TRUTHS.*

BUT NOW WE *HAVE* TO TALK ABOUT MAGIC. BECAUSE IF YOU'RE GOING TO WIN THIS FIGHT, THERE ARE A *TON* OF THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

MENU

FIRST YOU MUST KNOW THAT YOUR FATHER WAS A *GREAT* AND *POWERFUL* MAGICIAN.

A CHERISHED AND *REVERED* MAGICIAN.

WHAT THEY *WON'T* TELL YOU IS THAT BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED, THE CASTERS HAD LONG SUSPECTED HE PRACTICED...

...*FORBIDDEN* SPELLS.

ZATARA WAS BECOMING NOT JUST A *POWERFUL FORCE*...

...BUT A FORCE *OPPOSED* TO THEIR CONTROL.

HE STARTED BEHAVING LESS LIKE A CHERISHED SON AND MORE LIKE AN ENEMY CHIPPING AWAY AT THEIR RULES.

"THE CASTERS ARE AND HAVE *ALWAYS* BEEN AN INSTITUTION ABOVE ALL. AS SUCH, THEY HAVE *MANY* RULES WHEN IT COMES TO PRACTICING MAGIC.

"THEY'RE LIKELY *ARGUING* ABOUT THOSE VERY RULES AS WE SPEAK.

"THE *MAIN* RULE BEING THAT NO CASTER MAY GIVE OR RECEIVE POWER FROM ANOTHER.

"THE ACT OF TRANSFERRING POWER IS THE HIGHEST ORDER OF MAGIC BECAUSE IT IS SO *DANGEROUS.* IT COULD DESTROY A CASTER, OR *WORSE*--

"--CREATE A *DEMON.*"

...

LAEVER!

"STILL, YOUR FATHER BELIEVED HE WAS POWERFUL ENOUGH, *STRONG* ENOUGH TO AVOID THOSE DANGERS."

ZATARA HAD ALWAYS BEEN A *DEVOUT* STUDENT...

"...AS A BOY HE STUDIED ANCIENT TEXTS OF CASTERS LONG FORGOTTEN.

"AND IN THOSE TEXTS, HE DISCOVERED THAT IN THE EARLIEST DAYS OF MAGIC, THERE WERE *NO* RULES WITH REGARD TO HOW CASTERS PRACTICED THEIR ART.

"THAT IS, UNTIL *SOME* CASTERS..."

...BEGAN *STEALING* MAGIC.

A SPELL SO FORBIDDEN, IT IS NO LONGER SPOKEN OF.

THE CASTERS HAD THEIR SUSPICIONS THAT ZATARA WAS PRACTICING THIS MAGIC. BUT THEY WERE SPLIT ON *HOW* TO RESPOND...

...SO THEY *DIDN'T.*

AND *YOU* PAID THE PRICE.

DID I--?

DID I *STEAL* MY FATHER'S MAGIC?

Is that how I killed him?

YOU'RE NOT *LISTENING.*

WE CAME TO YOU FOR A *REASON.*

TO TELL ME ABOUT MY FATHER.

TO TELL YOU ABOUT *MAGIC.*

ABOUT *YOUR* MAGIC...

"...AND WHAT WAS GIVEN AND WHAT WAS *TAKEN.*"

LAEVER!

LAEVER!

Dammit.

SQUEAK

HELLO? ARE YOU THERE?

SQUEEK

SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
AH!
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
Damn birds.
THGI--
What...?

KTR KTR KTR KTR

NO!

IT CANNOT BE! THIS IS NOT WHAT I WAS PROMISED!

ERIF NRUB, NORDLUAC ELBBUB--!

FWOOSH

I DON'T UNDER-STAND.

BREAKFAST SPECIALS

YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD NO MAGIC.

I SUSPECT THERE ARE *MANY* THINGS ZATARA DIDN'T WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND.

BUT YOU *DO* HAVE MAGIC, ZATANNA.

YOU ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU KNOW.

HE KNOWS ABOUT YOUR POWER, ZATANNA, AND HE *WILL* COME. WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME--

I'D SAY YOU *HAVE* RUN OUT OF TIME.

T'NOD EVOM A ELCSUM.

I *ACCUSE* YOU, ZATANNA, DAUGHTER OF ZATARA...

...OF THE CRIME OF *STEALING MAGIC.*

DO YOU CASTERS *EVER* TIRE OF BEING WRONG?

I HAVE MY ORDERS TO TAKE HER INTO CUSTODY.

SHE'S *STOLEN* MAGIC. WE HAVE PROOF.

SHE *GAVE* YOU MAGIC!

LIES.

I SEE. SO *YOU* DEFEATED THAT DEMON ALL ON *YOUR OWN?*

STAY *OUT* OF THIS, BUNNY.

CAN'T TELL THE CASTERS YOU BROKE THE RULES AND GOT A LITTLE HELP. SO WHAT EXACTLY *IS* YOUR PROOF OF ZATANNA'S MAGICAL ABILITIES?

WHAT IS--

--HAPPENING?

HEY, WHENEVER YOU'RE READY?

YOU CAN PAY FOR YOUR FOOD UP FRONT.

WE DIDN'T EAT ANYTHING.

THAT GUY AT THE COUNTER SAID YOU WOULD PAY FOR HIS BURGER.

WHAT GUY?

HEY, *Z!*

I GOT YOUR CALL!

BREAKFAST SPECIALS
6. AM TO 11. AM
OMELETS (PLAIN) 5.95
(CHEESE, WESTERN OR MUSHROOM
PANCAKES 6.95
WITH BUTTER/SYRUP
BAGEL WITH CREAM CHEESE 3
BACON, HAM OR SAUSAGES
& EGGS (PEAMEAL

BURGERS
HAMBURGER . ONION
CHEESEBURGER
BANQUET BURG
HOT DOG
FRENCH FRIES

LONG TIME NO SEE.

JOHN CONSTANTINE. GREAT.
Uh...

IS THIS ABOUT THE *CAR RENTAL THING*, Z?
Because I *was* going to ring you about that eventually.

OR IS THIS ABOUT YOU BEING A *GREAT* AND *POWERFUL MAGICIAN*?

NEXT: Come Away With Me

"They know exactly how powerful she is. And so does he."

A weird party...

SO, WHAT DO I DO?

...ten years ago.

PICK A CARD, ANY CARD.

Gee, I DON'T KNOW, *SO* MANY TO CHOOSE FROM.

PICK A CARD, DUDE. IT'S NOT THAT DIFFICULT.

HEARTS.

HEY. *Uh--*

YOU'RE ZATANNA.

YEAH?

HEARTS.

OKAY! QUEEN OF HEARTS FOR TRENCH COAT.

ALL RIGHT, TRENCH COAT, WHERE'S YOUR QUEEN?

HERE.

Okaaay, TRENCH COAT'S FEELING *CONFIDENT.*

FLIP

What the f--

Pfffffft. STUPID MAGIC.

NICE TRICK, *WEIRDO.*

RIGHT? *SO* STUPID.

I'M DRUNK.

YES YOU ARE.

WHO *ARE* YOU?

THE JACK OF HEARTS, OBVIOUSLY.

BLAM

CRASH

CRASH

What a card...

UH. YOU'RE... WATCHING ME WHILE I SLEEP?

YOU SNORE.

NO I DON--

--WHO ARE YOU?

I THINK I ALREADY ANSWERED THAT QUESTION.

THANKS FOR THE BLANKET.

ANY-TIME.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

CONSTANTINE.

BUT YOU CAN CALL ME JOHN.

YOU WANNA GO GET SOME CHOW?

YEAH. I DO.

CONSTANTINE.

Now.

Bud

you need a ride?

Some serious at the diner!!

There's a fighting some chick!!!

so

do you need a ride or not?

Judy

Holy

This city is *so* messed up.

CRASH

YOU KNOW THE TROUBLE WITH *CASTERS?* YOU WANT TO BE *RIGHT* INSTEAD OF *SMART.*

ZOMMA ZA

ZAAP

BLAM

ZZZZTTLL

CRASH

YOU KNOW THE TROUBLE WITH *RABBITS?*

YOU'RE ALWAYS *IN THE WAY.*

FATHOOOMM

SWISH

ZOING

SIZZLE

CRUNCH

FIZZFIZZ

CRASH

YOU WANNA GET OUT OF

CRASH

WHAT?

BROW

HOLD ON.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

FIZZ

MUCH BETTER.

YOU ALL DO THIS A LOT? THIS FREEZING THING?

SEEMS RUDE.

WELL, I COULDN'T HEAR A THING WHILE THEY WERE FIGHTING. COULD YOU?

DON'T WORRY, THEY'LL BE FINE.

SHE THINKS I *KILLED* SOMEONE.

THE STRANGER? YEAH.

YOU DIDN'T.

FEELS LIKE A GOOD TIME FOR A LITTLE BREAK?

=Sigh=

YOU KEPT THE HAT.

DON'T READ TOO MUCH INTO IT. TOP HATS ARE EXPENSIVE.

DON'T I KNOW IT.

OKAY, YEAH. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

PFFFF

Pof

WHERE DID THEY GO?!

OKAY.

IS THIS...?

...IS THIS *PARIS?*

EVERY-ONE WANTS TO GO TO PARIS.

YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO PARIS.

AND NOW YOU'RE HERE.

YOU WERE A VERY INTERESTING BOYFRIEND, JOHN CONSTANTINE.

YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT.

YOU EVER HAVE ONE OF THOSE DAYS WHEN YOUR ENTIRE TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD IS CALLED INTO QUESTION AND-- EVEN THOUGH IT'S ALREADY IN SHREDS-- GETS RIPPED APART BY PEOPLE WHO WANT TO ACCUSE YOU OF DOING EVEN *MORE* HORRIBLE THINGS?

AND THEN SOME BUNNIES TELL YOU YOU'RE A POWERFUL WIZARD?

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE A *WIZARD,* PER SE.

IT'S BEEN A REALLY BAD DAY.

SOUNDS BAD.

I *DID* ALWAYS WANT TO GO TO PARIS.

I KNOW.

CONSTANTINE!

ARE YOU SO SURPRISED?

SEEMS LIKE YOU CASTERS HAVE ACCUMULATED A *LOT* OF MEDDLERS IN YOUR AFFAIRS.

YOU IN THE HABIT OF LETTING *KILLERS* GO FREE?

THAT SEEMS TO BE MORE *YOUR* DEPARTMENT.

ZATANNA IS A *THREAT.*

SHE'S *NOT* AND YOU KNOW IT.

BUT SHE *IS* MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY OF YOUR FELLOW CASTERS CAN IMAGINE.

THEY KNOW *EXACTLY* HOW POWERFUL SHE IS.

AND SO DOES *HE.*

WHAT THEY FEAR HAS ALREADY BEGUN. AND NOTHING THEY DO CAN STOP IT. ONLY *SHE--*

FLASH

Oh GOD--

EKAT EM KCAB!

FIND HER.

BLINK

FIND THEM BOTH!

RUMBLE!

WHERE IS THE STRANGER?

WE RAISED THE ALARM! SHE SHOULD BE HERE!

CRASH!

I MEAN, SHOULDN'T PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE MAGIC BE *WISE?*

OR JUST EASIER TO GET ALONG WITH?

IT FEELS LIKE THE HISTORY OF MAGIC IS FULL OF *TERRIBLE* PEOPLE WITH *WEIRD RULES* THAT DIDN'T EVEN STOP HORRIBLE THINGS FROM *HAPPENING.*

ANYWAY, ARE WE GOING TO GET A FRENCH BREAKFAST?

WHAT'S A FRENCH BREAK-FAST?

I DON'T KNOW. FRENCH TOAST? DUCK?

SURE.

I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT ANY OF THAT OTHER STUFF, BY THE WAY.

IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM FOR MUCH LONGER.

WHAT DOES *THAT* MEAN?

THEY'RE ALL ABOUT TO DIE.

SO... FRENCH TOAST?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
Food?
WHO'S DYING?
FIRST THE CASTERS. THEN ANYONE WHO PRACTICES MAGIC, I IMAGINE.
NOT *US,* OBVIOUSLY, BECAUSE WE'RE IN PARIS. WE'RE SAFE FOR NOW.
WHY ARE YOU NOT FREAKING OUT?
NOT A FAN OF FREAKING OUT IN GENERAL.
YOU DON'T KNOW THESE PEOPLE, ZATANNA. THIS IS A GOOD THING.
AND YOU *DO* KNOW THEM?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THEM?
...None of this *matters.*
WHAT DOESN'T MATTER?
CONSTANTINE.
YOU CAN'T SAVE THEM!
AND YOU SHOULDN'T *WANT* TO!
WHAT AREN'T YOU TELLING ME?
THIS WAS *YEARS* AGO...

A little **more** than ten years ago.

"...I WAS DOING MORE *FREELANCE* BACK THEN."

SHE WILL BE IN HER TWENTIES.

OUR PEOPLE HAVE A LOCATION FOR YOU.

GOT IT.

WHATEVER TOOK PLACE THE NIGHT ZATARA DISAPPEARED SEEMS TO HAVE *DRAINED* HER OF ANY MAGICAL ABILITY.

BUT IF YOU SENSE ANY REEMERGING *POWERS*--

--*ANY* ABILITY WHATSOEVER.

YOU MUST ACT...

...*PREVENTATIVELY.*

"THEY SENT ME TO KILL YOU.

"THEY WANTED TO BE SURE YOU WEREN'T *HIM.*

"OR *WORKING* WITH HIM.

"I KNEW YOU WEREN'T.

"SO I LEFT."

"YOU LEFT ON MY *BIRTHDAY.*"

Plot twist.

YOU'RE A THREAT BECAUSE NO ONE CAN *EXPLAIN* YOU, ZATANNA.

THE FIRST THEORY WAS THAT YOU WERE ACTUALLY POWERFUL ENOUGH AS A LITTLE GIRL TO KILL YOUR FATHER.

BUT THEN ANOTHER, *DARKER* THEORY STARTED WORKING ITS WAY THROUGH THE RUMOR MILL.

YOU'RE NOT TALKING...

I guess...

...I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.

I should have known.

Z...?

NEVER MIND.

WHAT WAS THE DARKER RUMOR?

I'M ASSUMING THE BUNNIES TOLD YOU ABOUT THE *TRANSFER OF POWER* THING.

ALL MAGIC PRACTITIONERS ARE OBSESSED WITH IT.

"IT'S THE MOST DANGEROUS ACT.

"TO STEAL MAGIC IS TO OPEN YOUR HEART TO DARKNESS AND BE CONSUMED BY IT.

"THE MORE POWERFUL THE THING YOU CONSUME, THE MORE DARKNESS IT LETS IN."

FWOSH

"OF COURSE, THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DEMONS, ALL *KINDS* OF DEMONS.

"THERE WERE DEMONS *BEFORE* ZATARA STARTED MEDDLING WITH HIS MAGIC.

"BUT NOW SOMETHING HAS BEEN UNLEASHED. SOMETHING *WICKED.*

"SOMETHING *HUNGRY.*"

THE SPELL YOUR FATHER USED THAT NIGHT, THE SPELL THAT MADE HIM WHAT HE BECAME.

IT KILLS EVERYONE. IT SHOULD HAVE KILLED *YOU.*

WHAT DID HE BECOME?

YOU DON'T KNOW?

HE'S A *DEMON,* ZATANNA. THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL THE DEMONIC CREATURES.

SO POWERFUL HE'S CREATED A *DEMON ARMY.*

WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?

"THE WORLD OF MAGIC HAS ALWAYS BEEN ON THE VERGE OF WAR."

NO--!

NO!

GET AWAY!

I COULDN'T GET BACK...

...THEY BLOCKED THE WAY...

"YOUR FATHER LIT THE FUSE WHEN HE STOLE YOUR POWER."

This... is our fault...

Please don't go.

"AND NOW HE'S GOING TO *END* THE WAR HE STARTED ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.

"LEAVE NO ENEMY STANDING."

HE *WILL* WIN. HE'LL KILL THEM ALL. AND THEN...

AND THEN HE WANTS ME?

YES.

RUE MAGIQUE

WHY NOW? HE'S BEEN A NO-SHOW FOR YEARS.

I MAY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP YOU UNDER WRAPS FOR A BIT.

HOW?

A HAT TRICK.

LE GARE

YOU STILL WEAR IT.

C?

"MY ONLY BIRTHDAY PRESENT THAT DIDN'T SUCK."

Love,
The Best Boyfriend
You'll Ever Have

"I IMBUED YOUR HAT WITH A SIMPLE SPELL, DESIGNED TO KEEP YOU HIDDEN...

"...UNTIL YOU WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFEND YOURSELF."

SERIOUSLY.

WHY DID I NEVER LOOK INSIDE THIS THING?

MOST PEOPLE DON'T.

I KNOW I BETRAYED YOU.

I KNOW I'M ONE OF *MANY* PEOPLE WHO LIED TO YOU.

BUT I NEEDED YOU TO STAY SAFE AND THIS SEEMED THE ONLY WAY TO DO IT.

So. I'M STRONG NOW?

YES, YOU ARE.

OKAY, THEN.

YOU KNOW, IT'S WEIRD. AFTER THAT NIGHT IN THE WOODS, I NEVER *FELT* POWER, EVER.

MAYBE THAT WAS SOMETHING HE TOOK FROM ME.

MOST DEFINITELY.

IT DIDN'T BOTHER ME, NOT FEELING POWERFUL. IT FELT... ***SAFE.***

MAYBE IT WAS.

I USED TO HAVE THIS THEORY THAT THE BEST POWERFUL PEOPLE WERE THE ONES WHO ACTIVELY SHUNNED POWER.

INTERESTING THEORY.

I COULD *KEEP* YOU HIDDEN.

AND HIDDEN WOULD BE SAFE?

Ish.

I HAVE THE POWER TO STOP HIM.

IS THAT A QUESTION?

NO.

NOT A QUESTION.

CIGAM TEG YDAER!

IT TOOK A SEAT FILLER, SEVERAL BUNNIES, AND AN EX-BOY-FRIEND...

...AND SOME DEMONS.

BUT I GOT THE MESSAGE.

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

THE BUNNIES SAID I WOULD.

WERE THEY RIGHT?

YES.

OLLEH, REGNARTS.

BLINK

Shit.

I'm sorry...

I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU.

THAT'S A LIE.

WHAT DO *YOU* WANT?

I WANT TO END THIS.

IT'S OVER. THEY'RE ALL GONE.

NOT YOU AND NOT ME.

HOW DO I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU?

I THINK YOU DO.

I THINK YOU DID FROM THE MOMENT I SAVED YOU SAVING ME AT THE CASINO.

I NEED TO FIND ZATARA AND DESTROY HIM. AND I NEED YOUR HELP TO DO IT.

ZATARA IS *DEAD.*

HE'S A *DEMON.* THAT'S NOT DEAD.

IF ZATARA COULD BE FOUND, WE WOULD HAVE FOUND HIM.

YEAH, I THINK THERE'S ONE MORE PLACE WE CAN LOOK.

COME *ON!*

TAKE MY #€@%$*€ HAND AND LET'S GO.

"THE WAY TO FIND MY FATHER IS TO GO BACK TO THE DAY HE *DISAPPEARED.*

"TO TAKE *BACK* WHAT HE TOOK FROM ME.

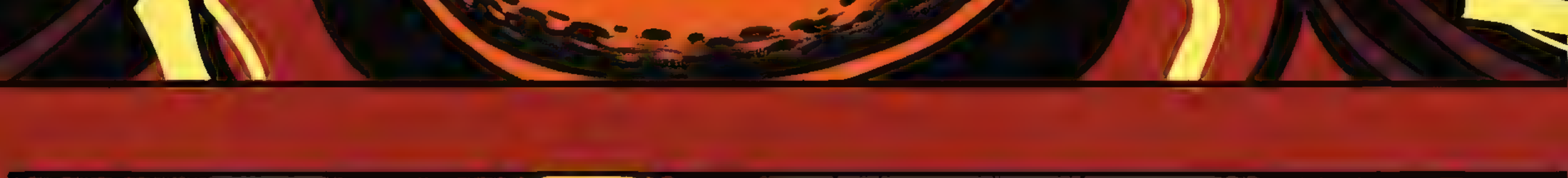
"MY *MEMORIES.*"

NOT WHAT I THOUGHT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

OKAY.

LET'S GO KILL MY DEMON DAD.



Satana

“What we’re walking into... it’s a war for the *soul of magic.*”

DO YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO?

HOW WE'RE GOING TO DEFEAT THE DEMONS?

AND MY FATHER?

YES. AND THE MOST POWERFUL CASTER THERE EVER WAS.

DO I HAVE A PLAN?

YES.

Z-

Um.

S

NOT REALLY.

WHAT?!

I'VE NEVER *DONE* THIS BEFORE.

THAT'S NO EXCUSE! YOU SHOULD HAVE A *PLAN* BEFORE YOU--

--ROPE SOMEONE ELSE IN!

Sorry, YOU HAD *OTHER* THINGS TO DO TONIGHT?

I'M NOT EVEN SURE IT *IS* NIGHT!

CRASH!

BOOF!

Ungh...

HEY, WHERE ARE YOU?

ZATANNA?

TAP TAP TAP TAP

Oh shit.

WHAT?

WHAT?

...WHY ARE YOU SO *TALL?*

ξ^%#!

I'M A *KID?!*

Where did I get this shirt...?

OKAY, I THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER TO THIS, BUT...

...WHERE *ARE* WE?

IS THIS...

...YOUR *CHILDHOOD BEDROOM?*

YES.

Yes it is.

IT'S A *MESS.*

WHAT *IS* ALL THIS STUFF?

SNACKS.

Back off, okay?

COME ON.

THE INNER SANCTUM OF THE GREAT AND POWERFUL ZATARA.

MY DAD'S STUDY.

IT WASN'T CONNECTED TO MY ROOM... I DON'T THINK?

YEAH, IT WAS DOWN-STAIRS.

THIS IS A CONSTRUCTION.

WHY DO CASTERS *INSIST* ON SURROUNDING THEMSELVES WITH SELF-AGGRANDIZING STATUES?

YOU LITERALLY HAVE A HUGE POSTER OF YOURSELF IN YOUR CONDO.

THEY *GAVE* IT TO ME, OKAY? IT WAS A ***PROMOTIONAL ITEM.***

ZATANNA, WHY ARE WE *HERE?* IN YOUR OLD HOUSE?

BECAUSE OF *THAT* NIGHT.

WE HAVE TO GO TO THE *WOODS.*

ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO DO WHAT YOU DID IN THE CASINO?

WHAT *DID* I DO IN THE CASINO?

YOU GAVE ME MAGIC. AND I DEFEATED THE DEMON WITH IT.

DID YOU TELL THE *CASTERS* THAT'S WHAT I DID?

I DIDN'T.

I'VE BEEN A LOYAL MAGICIAN IN THE CASTERS' FOLD FOR A LONG TIME.

BUT IT'S... HARD TO KNOW WHO TO TRUST.

I WAS AFRAID, I THINK, OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO US IF THEY FOUND OUT.

EVEN BEFORE ALL THIS, THE CASTERS WERE ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR POWER.

THAT'S WHY THEY DIDN'T STOP YOUR FATHER.

THERE WERE ALWAYS MEMBERS OF THE ORDER, ZATARA'S FOLLOWERS, WHO ***WANTED*** HIS MAGIC AS MUCH AS THEY FEARED IT.

THAT *SUCKS!*

IT DOES SUCK.

WHAT WE'RE WALKING INTO ISN'T JUST A WAR WITH YOUR FATHER...

...IT'S A WAR FOR THE *SOUL OF MAGIC.* BETWEEN PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED YOUR FATHER'S QUEST FOR POWER AND THE REST OF US.

AND THE REST OF US *HAVE* TO WIN.

HE WANTS ME HERE.

He wants me small.

TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT. WHAT DID HE SAY?

I DON'T REMEMBER.

Right.

WHAT DID HE *DO?*

I can't remember.

HE PUT A BLINDFOLD ON ME AND HE SAID... *something.*

WHAT SPELL DID HE SAY?

OKAY. WE NEED TO GET SOME MAGIC HAPPENING.

ETIRW TI NWOD.

POOF

SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE

NRUTER REHTAF!

IS THIS... A 2001 TAX RETURN?!

GNIRB MIH OT EM!

!

LAEVER FLESRUOY!

ESIRA!

YOU *SUCK* AT THIS.

WAIT A SECOND...

SSSSSSSSSSS...

...I THINK THAT ONE WORKED.

WOBBLE

RM...

"ARISE" KIND OF ALWAYS WORKS.

ALTHOUGH I'M NEVER SURE WHAT IT WILL *DO.*

ELTTAB EDOM.

OOOMMMM

I'M *SCARED.*

ME TOO.

OOO

KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR KTR

KTR
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KTR
KTR
MOVE!

OKAY. NOW WE FIGHT.

I DON'T HAVE ARMOR!

USE. MAGIC.

ZOOOM

WHAT IF I DO IT WRONG?!

JUST IMAGINE WHAT YOU WANT TO DO AND SPEAK THE WORDS!

YOU DON'T *NEED* SPELLS FROM ME!

YOU $@%£*# KNOW HOW! JUST *DO IT!*

YTTI YTTIB NOMED!

POOF

PAF

OKAY, I SEE.

I GET IT.

Holy shit.

TOP HAT IS A *NATURAL.*

ZAP

PING

MOUSE

MAYBE BETTER THAN HER DAD.

WHAT NOW?

GARAGE SALE?

$#%€...

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

KTR KTR

...OF COURSE.

OOOM

KTR KTR KTR KTR

WE NEED *BACK-UP.*

GOOD IDEA.

SEINNUB EMOC OT ELTTAB!

POP POP POP POP POP POP

THERE!

BOMP

THANK BUNNY.

BUNNIES?

CRUSH DEMONS!

WEEAA

ZAAAAA

SSSSSH
AHH!

GULP
BLIP
NO--!

I know you're here.

I KNOW YOU'RE HERE!

Child...

I longed to protect you from yourself...

...from the dark power within you.

A power you used to **destroy** innocent lives.

A **deadly** power that would have been unleashed on the world had I not **intervened.**

Instead... you turned your darkness on **me.**

Turned me into THIS.

Father. That's not--

CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT I HAVE BECOME?

I brought you here to finally take your darkness **away** from the world. For **good.**

To save you again from your power.

You will do **exactly** as I say...

Repeat after me...

...these...

...MAGIC...

...WORDS...

NO!

FATHER...

I MA REGGIB NAHT OUY...

YOU LIED TO ME, FATHER.

AND I KNOW NOW WHAT YOU *HID* FROM ME.

RUOY REWOP SI ENIM WON.

UOY LLIW REVEN LAETS TI NIAGA.

MY WHOLE LIFE YOU MADE ME FEEL *SMALL.*

YOU *STOLE* FROM ME.

BUT IT WAS *YOU* WHO WAS TOO WEAK.

TOO WEAK TO HOLD *MY* MAGIC.

AND IT *DESTROYED* YOU.

BUT I'VE SEEN IT NOW.

I SAW IT *ALL.*

"SO WHAT NOW?"

CSI

TEMPORARILY CLOSED

ENTERTAINER WANTED

"Well, LOTS OF CHANGES.

FOR RENT

"I HAVE A NEW ACT.

ZATANNA'S

BRING DOWN THE HOUSE

FZZ

"They came up with the name, not me."

HOLLYWOOD

Zatanna

MAGIC MOMENTS

"AND YOUR... EX?"

RUE MARIE

Greta & Lila

"NO IDEA.

"BUT WE'RE NOT *NOT* INTERESTED?

"I HAVE HIS NUMBER IF I NEED IT."

"DO YOU THINK YOU'LL NEED IT?"

HEY, YOU NEVER KNOW, RIGHT?

PLUS WITH YOUR *OTHER* NEW JOB AS CELESTIAL?

Oh, no. ***NO!***

I'M JUST A CONSULTANT. I'M A... FREELANCER.

THE STRANGER IS IN CHARGE. BUT I'M AROUND IF SHE NEEDS ME.

SURE. *FREELANCER.*

Right.

GOTTA GO, BUNNY!

GOT A SHOW IN AN HOUR!

ATTOG TEG OT KROW.

EXIT

YOU'RE ON IN FIVE.

GOT IT.

EMIT-WOHS!

WELCOME, CASINO GUESTS, TO THE MAIN STAGE AT THE MILLENNIUM HOTEL!

THIS SHOULD BE GOOD.

HOW ABOUT WE START OFF WITH A LITTLE...

...MAGIC!

SHE DOES MAGIC NOW.

POWERFUL MAGIC.

DID... YOU WANT TO ATTEND THE SHOW?

NO. WE'RE FINE HERE.

WE'LL SEE HER AFTER.

I'LL BE IN MY DRESSING ROOM.

HEY, THERE'S SOME PEOPLE BACK THERE WANTING TO MEET YOU?

Huh.

I'M SURE THERE'S NO WAY THIS COULD BE WEIRD OR UNEXPECTED...

...right?

Y'KNOW, I ***WAS*** ABOUT TO CALL, BUT NONE OF YOU PEOPLE ARE LISTED.

SHOULD WE TALK?

EXIT

DEPENDS. WE'RE HERE ABOUT A *JOB.*

ARE YOU FINALLY READY TO HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE?*

Zatanna

Bring Down the House

by MARIKO TAMAKI and JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ

with HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU and ANDREA SHEA

Y'know? I THINK I AM.

The END.

A Peek Behind the Curtain

The variant covers and designs of Zatanna: Bring Down the House

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #1
variant cover by Stanley "Artgerm" Lau

***Zatanna: Bring Down the House* #1**
variant cover by Jorge Jiménez

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #1
1:25 variant cover by Alvaro Martinez Bueno

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #1
1:50 variant cover by Mikel Janin

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #2
variant cover by Jenny Frison

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #2
variant cover by Ariel Diaz

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #3
variant cover by Terry Dodson
& Rachel Dodson

ZATANNA

MARIKO TAMAKI
JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ

no. 3

TERRY DODSON
RACHEL

BRING DOWN THE HOUSE

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #3
variant cover by Jula Lotay

***Zatanna: Bring Down the House* #4**
variant cover by Joëlle Jones & Jordie Bellaire

***Zatanna: Bring Down the House* #4**
variant cover by Joshua "Sway" Swaby

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #4
variant cover by Nicola Scott & Annette Kwok

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #5
variant cover by Oscar Vega

Zatanna: Bring Down the House #5
variant cover by Marcos Martín

The Stranger

by Javier Rodriguez

Zatanna by Javier Rodriguez

Zatara
by Javier Rodríguez

Mariko Tamaki is a writer of comics and television. Her works include: *Roaming* (with Jillian Tamaki), *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me* (with Rosemary Valero-O'Connell), and *This One Summer* (with Jillian Tamaki). She has also written adventures for Batman, Crush & Lobo, Two Face, Spider-man, and Supergirl. She has received Printz Honors, Eisner, Ingatz, and GLAAD awards and is the curator of the Abrams LGBTQIA imprint, Surely Books. She lives in California.

Javier Rodríguez began his career in the early 90s, drawing comics alongside playing in his punk-rock band and eventually publishing his first European graphic album, *Wake-Up*. He would go on to color *Batgirl: Year One* for DC Comics, his first superhero work but far from the last. In 2020, after a long stint at Marvel, Javier returned to DC as an artist for *Harley Quinn: Black, White, and Red*, quickly followed by his acclaimed work in The Sandman Universe, *The Brave and the Bold*, *Green Arrow*, and *Titans*.

Hassan Otsmane-Elhaou is a British/Algerian letterer who has worked on comics like *Poison Ivy*, *Batman: City of Madness*, and *The Flash*. He also edited the multi-Eisner-winning *PanelxPanel* magazine and was the voice behind *Strip Panel Naked*.

"All superhero comics might have the potential to be magic, but *Bring Down the House* is absolutely filled with the stuff."—ComicBook.com

After a deadly childhood mistake left her devoid of magical abilities but terrified by the prospect of their return, Zatanna found a home for herself in Las Vegas performing sleight-of-hand and cheap card tricks at the crappiest casino off the strip. It's not exactly glamorous, but it's better than the dangers of tangling with real magic.

Yet while Zatanna might think she's done with magic, it's certainly not done with her. And when a malevolent demon bursts through her stage mid-act, throwing her world into chaos with the promise of more hell to follow, she'll have to dig deep into the fractured memories of her past if she hopes to summon the power to survive what's coming. Because despite Zatanna's best efforts, your past has a way of coming back to kill you...

Collects the complete *Zatanna: Bring Down the House* #1-5.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"